

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

TOPIC Military Information from Muensdorf-Zossen

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 19 April to 2 May 1952

DATE OBTAINED

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. During the period from 21 to 26 April 1952, the Panzertruppenschule in Muensdorf-Zossen (M 53/2 91) was occupied by between 3,500 and 4,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Small details of 50 to 60 troops equipped with carbines and gas masks were seen at close-order drill and receiving field training.

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2. During the period from 24 to 29 April, the Lutz Kaserne on Highway No 96 was occupied by about 1,500 troops. The sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. No training activity was noticed.

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3. During the period from 24 to 29 April, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Highway No 96 was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. No training activity was noticed.

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4. During the period from 21 to 29 April, the Cambrai Kaserne, east of Highway No 96 was occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. No training activity was noticed.

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5. On 19 April, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by an officers' instruction course of about 850 officers. About 500 officer candidates attended a school for officer candidates there and about 160 soldiers and 30 women were also stationed there. Soldiers stated that the present course would immediately be followed by the next course without the usual break. A group consisting of 3 majors, and 40 officers with 6 heavy machine guns on gun carriages and 3 x 50-mm mortars marched out of the installation toward Neu Muensdorf.

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CLASSIFICATION

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6. A column of six trucks, each towing an 85-mm AA gun entered the Lutz Kaserne at 4 p.m. on 21 April, coming from the direction of Neuhof. The trucks were occupied by soldiers. (2)

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- 25X1 17. On 19 April, five driving school trucks, [redacted] left the Cambrai Kaserne toward Miasdorf. On 23 April, about 200 new trucks were seen in a barracks yard.

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8. On 30 April, the western section of the Panzertruppschule at the intersection of Highway No 96 and Zehrendorferstrasse was occupied by two motorcycle rifleman units. About 200 troops and a band of about 25 troops were seen falling in between Buildings 38 and 41 during the morning hours of the preceding days. About two thirds of these soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets and one third wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. Between 100 and 150 soldiers were seen daily at close-order drill. Individual sidecar motorcycles entered the installation. Between 32 and 34 T-34/85 tanks were again seen in Garage No 45. [redacted] (1)

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9. On 2 May, the north section of the Zossen Stammlager was occupied by between 800 and 1,000 signalmen. Between 60 and 90 percent of the installation were lighted at dusk. [redacted]

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[redacted] During the period from 27 April to 2 May, the middle section of the Stammlager was occupied by about 1,000 troops, most of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets. There also was a hospital. About 90 percent of the windows of the installation were lighted at dusk. [redacted]

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[redacted] From 27 April to 2 May, the south section of the Stammlager was occupied by about 1,200 to 1,400 troops of a motor transport unit. They were chiefly engaged in driving practice.

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10. On 25 April, the apartment buildings north-northwest of the Zossen Stammlager were occupied by about 100 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. One building was not lighted but the two others were completely lighted at dusk. [redacted]

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Comments.

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- (1) Information on the numbering system of the buildings was previously submitted. See sketch attached [redacted]. According to source of paragraph 3 of the present report and another source, at least elements of the 50th Mtrcl Regt of the Third Gds Mecz Army are located in the area of Buildings Nos 38 and 39 in the western section of the Panzertruppschule. The tanks observed in Garage No 45 belong to the tank repair shop of the Third Gds Mecz Army. [redacted]

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- (2) The occupation of the Lutz Kaserne appears to be unchanged. Elements of the unidentified AAA division of the Third Gds Mecz Army are confirmed by the observation of heavy AA guns as reported in paragraph 6.

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- (3) The officer school of the COFC in the Hindenburg Kaserne is confirmed [redacted] until 18 March 1952 on the documents identified in paragraphs 11 and 12 which were brought by trucks from installations which are occasionally used by officers from the Hindenburg Kaserne. [redacted]

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- (4) [redacted]
- (5) The information contained in the present report on the occupation of the Zossen Stammlager corresponds with previous assumptions. According to these assumptions, it is believed that a signal unit of the COFC is located in the north section; unidentified army troops of the Third Gds Mecz Army, including a hospital or a medical unit are located in the middle section; and a transportation unit of the COFC in the south section. [redacted]

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